

**Queensborough Community College
OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK**

At its April 30, 2010 meeting, the COMMITTEE ON COURSE AND STANDING approved the following resolution for action by the Academic Senate:

RESOLUTION ON REMOVING THE PENALTY FROM THE WN GRADE

WHEREAS, the WN grade was instituted by CUNY effective Fall 2008 as a new grade for students who registered for a course but were certified by faculty as not having attended the course even once, and

WHEREAS, the WN grade carried academic penalty in the fall 2008, spring 2009, and summer 2009 semesters, i.e., carrying a quality point value of 0 (zero) and hence counting as a failing grade, and

WHEREAS, CUNY eliminated the penalty nature of the WN grade effective with the fall 2009 semester, but did not eliminate the penalty nature of the WN grade retroactively to its inception in fall 2008 and through the summer 2009 semesters, and

WHEREAS, CUNY allows individual colleges the option to cancel the punitive effect of the WN grade for those three past semesters, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the punitive nature of the WN grade be retroactively cancelled for all such grades assigned in the fall 2008, spring 2009, and summer 2009 semesters in of Queensborough Community College, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these grades be adjusted in the student information database to carry no quality points and to count as an academically neutral grade such as the W grade and *WN grade.

EXPLANATION: The WN grade was initiated by CUNY as a means to identify students who never attend classes and would therefore not be eligible for Federal financial aid. For the semesters of fall 2008, spring 2009 and summer 2009 these WN grades, these grades were equivalent to a WU grade. The WU grade is a punitive grade, having the same effect as an F grade on the student's GPA. However starting with the Fall 2009 semester, the University has instituted a *WN grade which is non-punitive for students, having no impact on student Grade point averages. Academic affairs and this committee recommend that the college change all WN grades for the semesters Fall 2008, Spring 2009 and Summer 2009 to be non-punitive. It is unfair that a WN grade be punitive for the 2008-2009 academic year but not for any period after that. If the motion is approved, the College will make the necessary changes to academic records of Queensborough students.